

Message Text

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ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 SCA-01 JUSE-00 PA-03 PRS-01

USIA-12 FBI-01 CIAE-00 INR-09 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00

RSR-01 /058 W

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FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9754

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

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DEPT FOR L/ SCA: COPENHAGEN FOR LEGATT

E. O. 11652 N/ A

TAGS: CASC PINS SW US (HARRIS, ARTHUR)

SUBJECT: SWEDISH IMMIGRATION BOARD GRANTS HARRIS RESIDENCE STATUS

REF: STOCKHOLM 3367, OCT 25, 1972

BEGIN SUMMARY: SWEDISH IMMIGRATION BOARD TURNS DOWN ARTHUR HARRIS' REQUEST FOR POLITICAL ASYLUM BUT GRANTS HIM RESIDENCE AND WORK PERMITS. ACTION REQUESTED: SUGGEST NEW YORK STATE AUTHORITIES BE INFORMED OF ABOVE. ALSO REQUEST INFORMATION ON OTHER CHARGES PENDING AGAINST HARRIS AND MIXIMUM POSSIBLE PENALTIES. END SUMMARY

1. ARTHUR HARRIS' (SEE REFTEL) LONG- STANDING APPLICATION FOR " POLITICAL ASYLUM" IN SWEDEN WAS TURNED DOWN BY NATIONAL IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION BOARD ON MARCH 15 WHICH, HOWEVER, GRANTED HIM RESIDENCE AND WORK PERMITS. BOARD THUS REVERSED LAST WEEK' S RECOMMENDATION BY ALIENS COMMISSION THAT HARRIS SHOULD BE EXPELLED FROM SWEDEN. HARRIS WILL BE REQUIRED TO RE-NEW HIS PERMITS ANNUALLY. ALSO, HE COULD BE SUBJECT TO EXPULSION IF HE COMMITS A SERIOUS CRIME. HARRIS WOULD PRESUMABLY BIS SUBJECT TO EXTRADITION IF U. S. REQUESTED, SWEDISH SUPREME COURT APPROVED, AND GOS SANCTIONED SUPREME COURT' S DECISION, ACCORDING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PROSCRIBED PROCEDURES.

2. HARRIS' APPLICATION FOR POLITICAL ASYLUM IN SWEDEN WAS BASED ON HIS ALLEGATIONS THAT CRIME FOR WHICH HE CONVICTED IN U. S. WAS A " TRUMPED UP CHARGE", MOTIVATED BY " POLITICAL AND RACIAL

PREJUDICE", THAT CONVICTION WAS BASED ON " WEAK EVIDENCE" INCLUDING USE OF POLICE UNDERCOVER AGENT DURING " LONG HOT SUMMER IN U. S.", ETC., ETC. IMMIGRATION BOARD GAVE RESIDENCE OF " SPECIAL REASONS" WHICH REPORTEDLY WERE BASED ON CONCLUSION THAT ENOUGH DOUBT EXISTED ABOUT ADEQUACY OF EVIDENCE ON WHICH HIS NEW YORK STATE CONVICTION WAS BASED. BOARD EMPHASIZED THAT THEIR DECISION, AS ALWAYS, IS ADMINISTRATIVE, NOT JUDICIAL.

3. CAMPAIGN HAS BEEN MOUNTED IN HARRIS' BEHALF AND HAS RESULTED IN SERIES OF NEWSPAPER ARTICLES FAVORABLE TO HIS POSITION, INCLUDING STATEMENTS THAT IF HE RETURNED TO U. S. HE COULD BE CHARGED WITH TREASON AND ILLEGAL EMIGRATION WHICH COULD ADD 60 YEARS TO HIS THREE AND ONE- HALF TO SEVEN- YEAR CONVICTION.

4. HARRIS AND HIS SUPPORTERS ARE COMPLAINING BITTERLY THAT BOARD DID NOT DECLARE HIM A POLITICAL REFUGEE WHICH, THEY APPARENTLY BELIEVE, WOULD PROTECT HIM AGAINST POSSIBLE EXTRA- DITION TO U. S. HEAD OF IMMIGRATION BOARD TOLD NATIONWIDE TV AUDIENCE DURING PANEL TALK SHOW LAST NIGHT THAT IT WOULD BE UP TO THE SUPREME COURT TO MAKE THE DECISION, WHETHER OR NOT POLITICAL REFUGEE STATUS WERE GRANTED.

5. MIXED WITH CONDEMNATION OF U. S. JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS AGAINST BLACK REVOLUTIONARIES IN 1967-69, SOME OF RECENT PRESS COMMENTARY MAGNANIMOUSLY CONCEDES POSSIBILITY THAT BLACK REVOLUTIONARIES COULD RECEIVE FAIR TRIAL IN U. S. NOW, CITING ANGELA DAVIS, HUEY NEWTON AND OTHER CASES.

6. COMMENT: EMBASSY SUGGESTS THAT NEW YORK STATE AUTHORITIES BE INFORMED OF ABOVE. BOARD' S DECISION SHOULD NOT PREJUDICE AN EVENTUAL REQUEST FOR HARRIS' EXTRADITION FROM LEGAL POINT OF VIEW, BUT OBVIOUSLY THE PSYCHOLOGICAL CLIMATE IS NOT THE BEST FOR AN ORDERLY, RATIONAL CONSIDERATION BY SWEDISH AUTHORITIES OF AN EXTRADITION REQUEST. WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING ANY INFORMATION ON OTHER CHARGES WHICH MAY BE PENDING AGAINST LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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HARRIS AND MAXIMUM POSSIBLE PENALTIES.

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